

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 00946 141635 Z

72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

GAC-01 MBFR-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /108 W

----- 056356

R 141239 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4310

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MT, LY, UK

SUBJECT: REPORT OF MALTA INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING 1970 COUP AGAINST
QADHAFI

1. GWU MAY 14 PRESS FRONT PAGE HEADLINES SUBJECT WITH STORY
ON BOOK " OPERATION HILTON" BY BRITISH AUTHORS PATRICK SEALE
AND MAUREEN MCCONVILLE. STORY SAYS OPERATION FINANCED BY WEALTHY
LIBYANS, PLANNED BY BRITISH MERCENARIES, AND WAS TO HAVE TAKEN
PLACE IN AUTUMN 1970, WITH MALTA AS JUMP- OFF POINT, FOR ATTEMPT
TO FREE 150 POLITICAL PRISONERS.

2. REPORTS NAME STEVE REYNOLDS, DAVID STIRLING, AND JAMES
KENT AS PRINCIPAL LEADERS, AND CLAIM BRITISH INTELLIGENCE AND
CIA KEW OF PLOT, BUT MADE NO OBJECTION TO IT. OPERATION WAS
CALLED OFF BECAUSE " A SENIOR BRITISH SECRET SERVICE OFFICIAL,
AND ANTHONY ROYLE, PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER
SECRETARY, TOLD STIRLING THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD
BRITISH MERCENARIES BE SENT TO LIBYA." GETZ

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VALLET00946
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajeoq.tel
Line Count: 55
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <05-Oct-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980212
Subject: REPORT OF MALTA INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING 1970 COUP AGAINST QUDHAFI
TAGS: PFOR, LY, MT, UK, PFOR
To: EUR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005